

**Meeting Location:** Academy of Career Exploration, 155 Harrison Street, Providence, RI 02907

Date & Time: December 8th, 2015, 4:30 pm

**Directors Present:** Kathleen Fisher, Marion Hague, Kerry Altman, Laurie Devlin, Dr. Victor

Faye-Wolfe, Nicky Nichtern, Jennifer Pierce, Phil Zarlengo, Ela Silva.

Others Present: Jane Nugent, Alan Neville, Mario Cirillo, Head of School, Randy Dittmar and

Roger Ray, Dittmar, McNeil, & Ferrolito, LLC, Luke Driver, Curriculum and CTE Director, Vanessa Toledo-Vickers, ACE Director of Operations, Susan Ahlstrom,

ACE Director of Development, Jane Bernardino, Asst. Head of School.

**Directors Absent:** Roberto Garcia, Denise DeBarros, Jamie Scurry, Carmen Ferguson, Mike Jarrett

**Presiding Officers:** Kathy Fisher and Marion Hague

#### **BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

#### I. Call to Order

Board Co-Chairs Marion Hague and Kathy Fisher called the meeting to order at 4:40 pm

#### II. Roll Call

#### **III.** Public Comment

There was no public comment.

### IV. Chair's Opening Remarks

Ms. Hague welcomed Dr. Victor Faye-Wolfe to the Board of Directors. She also welcomed Jamie Scurry who could not make it tonight due to illness. Meeting attendees introduced themselves to the rest of the group.



### V. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Ms. Altman moved and Ms. Nichtern seconded a motion to approve the November 10th meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote of all members present.

#### VI. Executive Session Pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5 (a)(2)

Sessions pertaining to reasonably anticipated litigation pertaining to Perkins Grant - Discussion/Vote Regarding Receipt of Inadequate Perkins Funds and next steps to address same

The group did not go into executive session.

#### VII. Budget Updated/Discussion

Mr. Dittmar distributed a balance sheet and a revenue and expense report for the period ending November 30<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the information on the reports.

The audit work continues and the auditor will be at ACE this week.

#### VIII. Board Member Nominations

There was discussion around the nomination Ligna Sanchez and Yubelkis Hernandez to ACE's Board of Directors as the parent representatives. Ms. Fisher was able to connect with Ms. Sanchez about her nomination. She has not been able to connect with Ms. Hernandez. We will try again this week to connect with Ms. Hernandez.

Mr. Neville moved and Mrs. Silva seconded a motion to accept the nomination of Ms. Sanchez to the Board.

#### IX. PARCC Results

Ms. Rapose distributed a presentation title "Improving Student Achievement in Mathematics and Science" and reports with the 2015 NECAP Science results and the PARCC Algebra I and Geometry results. She explained how she has been working with ACE students and teachers over the last three years to focus on math and science in a



collaborative approach. Ms. Rapose also walked through the different data reports (NECAP, STARR, PARCC) and how ACE students performed in those tests. She mentioned that in the NECAP, ACE has had a statistically significant improvement in the proficient category for math between 2008 and 2015. The only other school that had the same type of improvement was Classical. ACE also double the percent of proficient students from 13-14 to 14-15. There was discussion regarding the tests, results and future work to continue to improve student performance.

#### X. Head of School Report

Dr. Cirillo shared a printed version of the December 2015 edition of Leadership Links and asked the members to give the team feedback as they receive the report every month. We have a new format that reflects the use of the new Google platform and the automation we have implemented trough that platform in the last two months. He read a paragraph from an article that emphasizes the importance of computer science curriculum to help young people prepare for future careers.

Mr. Toledo Vickers shared with the members an online tour of the automation we have done to date at ACE through the Google platform. Dr. Cirillo thanked Ms. Bernardino for what she does in dealing with the day to day issues at the school and all the testing and reporting that she does.

#### XI. Development Update

Ms. Ahlstrom distributed a sheet with a summary of the projects that she has been working on at ACE in the eight weeks she has been here. The list also includes projects that team would like to move forward with.

She asked for the Board's support in pulling together a fundraiser/screening of a new movie about education. She also mentioned that Lt. Governor McGee has agreed to be our Commencement Speaker.



#### XII. Other New Business

Ms. Hague asked the team about their availability in February for a Saturday retreat.

## XIII. Inspirational Story

Mr. Driver spoke to the work we are doing as beta testers for Pathidi and how students are using coding boxes to learn how to code and decode in binary.

## XIV. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was offered by Ms. Nichtern seconded by Ms. Devlin and the meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.